

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Keith L. Black and Nagendra S. Ningaraj
Appln. No. : Continuation of 09/491,500
Filed : October 29, 2003

Examiner : Unassigned
Customer No. : 20786

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Patent Application
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 29, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the application as shown below and consider the appended remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.